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Attorney Docket No.: 018867-000410US **PATENT**

On JANUARY 26, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Eleanor J. Taylor

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SHUZO FUJIMURA et al.

Application No.: 09/328,939

Filed: June 9, 1999

For: SURFACE TREATMENT
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Examiner: Shamim Ahmed

Art Unit: 1765

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37
CFR §1.97 and §1.98

OFFICIAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. The first pages of the references are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

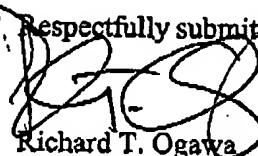
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PATENT

This IDS is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

Applicants believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/328,939
		Filing Date	June 9, 1999
		First Named Inventor	Fujimura, Shuzo
		Art Unit	1765
		Examiner Name	Shamim Ahmed
		Attorney Docket Number	018867-000410US
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS*					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	AA	US-6,551,939	B2		Takamatsu et al.
	AB	US-			
	AC	US-			
	AD	US-			
	AE	US-			
	AF	US-			
	AG	US-			
	AH	US-			
	AI	US-			
	AJ	US-			
	AK	US-			
	AL	US-			
	AM	US-			
	AN	US-			
	AO	US-			
	AP	US-			
	AQ	US-			
	AR	US-			
	AS	US-			
	AT	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	AU	JP	19950005 229		07-30-1996		Abstract
	AV						
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						
	BA						
	BB						

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to